

Greenways and Trails TIDBITS

July 2007 Edition

TN Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC)- June, 2007

Recreation Educational Services Division (RES)

<http://www.tdec.net/recreation/grants.shtml>

RES is pleased to announce the new Pre-Application process is open and they are accepting applications until 4 p.m. August 17, 2007. The Pre-Application (PreApp) is an abbreviated process of the standard Local Park and Recreation Fund (LPRF), the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) and Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) applications. The PreApp is being used to speed up the Environmental Review process for the grant programs and if you submit a complete PreApp, this will assist your community score points during the full application due March 7, 2008.

Recreation Educational Services Division (RES)

<http://www.tdec.net/recreation/greentrails.shtml>

Thanks to everyone who anticipated in filling out and mailing or faxing the Greenways and Trails Survey to our office. We received **656 surveys** and are compiling the information from the survey. Results will be posted on the website and announced in a future TIDBITS newsletter.

Also on the Greenways and Trails webpage is a new **Technical Bulletin** providing guidelines for the Americans with Disabilities Act requirements for trails. Trails designated for pedestrian use are the only trails that are required to be accessible. Bulletin includes text, figures and pictures showing accessibility examples.

Trail of Tears National Historic Trail, <http://www.nps.gov/trte/>

There are two more routes under study to be added to the Northern and Water Routes designated by Congress in 1987. These are the Bell and Bengé Routes. The Bell Route starts near Charleston, TN and follows parallel to the Alabama/Mississippi state lines. The Bengé Route started in Fort Payne, AL and went diagonally across Tennessee up to Kentucky.

Go to: http://imgis.nps.gov/national_historic_trails.html to see the map of the location of these two routes. For more information on the public meetings concerning these two routes, go to: http://www.chattanooga.com/articles/article_109653.asp to find the dates of the meetings in Chattanooga, Pulaski and Memphis.

American Hiking Society, <http://www.americanhiking.org/>

National Trails Day!

National Trails Day (NTD) 2007 was a great success here in Tennessee with over 25 events and 1,000 people participating. NTD volunteers built or maintained trail, hiked, biked or spent time learning about their favorite trails.

Go to the NTD website: <http://www.americanhiking.org/events/ntd/> to see the list of activities that were held throughout the State of Tennessee.

Be sure to put June 7, 2008 on your calendar and start planning for the 2008 NTD!

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Tennessee State Parks, Bike Ride Across Tennessee (BRAT)

<http://www.tnstateparks.com/BRAT/>

Go to the website given above to check out the route of the 2007 BRAT. This year the ride stays in Middle Tennessee starting at the Bicentennial Mall in Nashville and ending at Long Hunter State Park.. For registration information, go to the website.

Tennessee Youth Conservation Corp, <http://www.tdec.net/tycc/>

Tennessee State Parks first Youth Conservation Corp (72 young people) are working hard in the 13 state parks selected for the first year of this pilot program. Many other states have very successful YCC programs and have served as a model for Tennessee's program.

Go to the website for more information about the program and how to participate in 2008.

American Trails, <http://www.americantrails.org/NewsAction/crtawards3-07.html>

American Trails in cooperation with the Coalition for Recreational Trails has announced its 2007 achievement awards to recognize outstanding trail projects funded by the national Recreational Trails Program (RTP).

There are 7 project categories: Maintenance and Rehabilitation, Construction & Design, Education & Communication, Multiple-Use Management & Corridor Sharing, Environment & Wildlife Compatibility, Accessibility Enhancement and Youth Conservation Corps.

Go to the website, <http://www.americantrails.org/awards/CRT07awards/> to check out who won.

Southern Off Road Bicycling Association (SORBA), <http://www.sorba.org/>

SORBA is the IMBA affiliate for the Southeast and there are numerous clubs that made up the Association. For the Tennessee clubs, go to <http://www.sorbachattanooga.org>.

There were two IMBA Trail Care Crew events in April here in Tennessee: Chattanooga and Nashville. Both events were very successful with over 50 trainers, agency staff and mountain biking volunteers showing up for the hands on training.

Go to: <http://www.sorbachattanooga.org/trails/trails.php?state=8&trail=367> to check out the Chattanooga Chapter's trail directory, an interactive trail guide for mountain bike trails throughout the State of Tennessee.

American Trails, <http://www.americantrails.org/http/FHWAnttp.html>

Need to find out more about the Federal Highway Administration's Recreational Trails Program?
Need training for trail design, layout, construction or on trail assessments!

Check out the National Trails Training Partnership (NTTP) website at <http://americantrails.org/http/>. The NTTP provides a comprehensive calendar showing available training opportunities.

If you don't see what you need, contact the NTTP and see if one can be set up.

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American Trails, <http://www.americantrails.org/resources/accessible/>

Do you need information about accessible trails and whether your trail meets the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) specifications? This is the website that has the answers to your questions. Go to: <http://www.access-board.gov/po1.cfm> to print out copies of the technical guidelines for ADA compliance for different facilities.

There is a Public Comment period from June 20, 2007 through September 18, 2007 concerning the Access Board's "Notice of Proposed Rulemaking" and is based on the guidelines developed for the Access Board in 1999 and published in the Regulation Negotiation Report. Go to: <http://www.access-board.gov/outdoor/nprm/> for the Notice.

You can also find information about accessible trails at the American Trails website. Go to: <http://www.americantrails.org/resources/accessible/NPRMnews6-07.html>.

NEW PRODUCTS SECTION:

These products are NOT endorsed or recommended by the State of Tennessee, nor the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, nor the Greenways and Trails Program. This information is only provided to let your community know of new products on the market.

Wickcraft Company, Inc. has been making boat docks and piers since 1954. Check out their website to see the innovative ways they are using their products. www.wickcraft.com. Contact is John Vanden Heuvel, President, 1-800-549-7694

Firestone Specialty Products. http://www.firestonesp.com/sustainable_products.asp. Flex-Pave is a newly developed product by Firestone that is permeable and is softer to walk on than asphalt. Go to the website for more information. Contact is Mark Munley, Vice President – Sales and Marketing, Phone 317-575-7233.

UPCOMING DATES TO BE AWARE OF:

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| July 19-21, 2007 | SOUTHEAST EQUESTRIAN TRAILS CONFERENCE
"Tomorrow's Horse Trails Depend on You". Go to:
http://www.southeasternequestriantrails.com/ |
| August 17, 2007 | Pre-Application deadline for LWCF LPRF and RTP grants
http://www.tdec.net/recreation/grants.shtml |
| September 15-22, 2007 | Bicycle Ride Across Tennessee,
http://www.tnstateparks.com/BRAT/ |
| October 8-10, 2007 | Greenways and Trail Conference
Germantown, TN
Watch for more information in future TIDBITS |

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UPCOMING DATES TO BE AWARE OF:

October 12-14, 2007 **Tennessee Trails Association's Annual meeting**
Clyde York 4-H Camp, Crossville, TN
Go to: www.Tennessee Trails.org

Information provided in this newsletter is taken from other sources and it is recommended that you go to those sources directly for complete information about an activity or event.



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